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Zaire Love

Zaire Love

University of Mississippi

Andrea Morales

University of Mississippi

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Zaire Love

Class of 2020, M.F.A. in Documentary Expression

Photographs by Andrea Morales, Southern Documentary Project

A portrait of Zaire Love, a Black woman, looking upwards and to the right. She is wearing a blue and white striped shirt and a dark green headband. Her hand is near her chin. The background is blurred, showing green foliage and a dark archway.

ZAIRE LOVE

SOCIAL DISTANCE PORTRAITS WITH 2020 SOUTHERN STUDIES GRADUATES

ZAIRE LOVE

Class of 2020

M.F.A. in Documentary Expression

Multidisciplinary artist and filmmaker

Her work is an ode to being black and southern in America. Many of her works aim to honor and amplify the voices of southern black women because they have always had “cornbread” to share. Zaire is a graduate of Spelman College [B.A. in Theatre] and Houston Baptist University [M.Ed in Curriculum and Education].



Her thesis film, “The Black Men I Know,” follows her uncle and her brother whose neighborhood in Memphis introduced and inducted them into violence, incarceration, and hustle. It is a creative documentary using experimental elements to tell their story.

a thought from you. What's something that kept you grounded enough during this time to be able to finish your thesis and defend?

Delivered

Hey friend! It was tough. However, I had to get some additional footage of them the first week of April. So, I rode down on them at my granny's house and the spirit and energy of that fieldwork energized me to finish. I realized that I was not creating solely for a degree and screenings. I was documenting this story because it's needed on all fronts. I'm doing this work because I love to tell great stories. This reminder got me to the finish line. ✨

